Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/12/28 : CIA-RDP90-00965R000100170086-2

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE CIL

THE WASHINGTON POST 30 May 1980

JACK ANDERSON

Coke for Guns—M19, the Colombian Communist terrorist group that held U.S. Ambassador Diego Asencio and others hostage for two months in Bogota, has been doing a deadly business with so-called "cocaine cowboys" in Florida. Intelligence sources say the M19 terrorists trade cocaine for automatic weapons equipped with silencers. Their Florida-based customers/suppliers have clandestine arrangements with other Latin American terrorist groups as well. In addition to drugs and weapons that benefit both sides, the tradeoffs involve millions in cash, investigators say.

EXCERPTED